Narrative Summary – January 2017

The average temperature for January 2017 was much colder than normal, 21.6°F, 11.8° below normal (33.4°F). This makes January 2017 the 6th coldest January on record. The warmest January (1953) averaged 42.5°F, while the coldest (1950) averaged 12.1°F.

The following daily temperature records were established:

		New	Old	
Date	Category	Record	Record	Year
12	Low Minimum	-4	-4	1963+ (Tie)
13	Low Maximum	9	10	1950
13	Low Minimum	-7	-4	1993+

+ denotes most recent of multiple occurrences

Precipitation for January 2017 totaled 1.43 inches, 152% of normal (0.94 inches). The wettest January (1970) received 2.47 inches, and the driest (1977) received 0.08 inch. Snowfall for January 2017 totaled 14.9 inches, compared to a January monthly normal of 4.6 inches, and a record maximum snowfall of 23.4 inches (1950). This makes January 2017 the 7th snowiest January on record. Snowfall for the 2016-2017 season through January is 19.0 inches, compared to a normal of 12.5 inches.

The average wind speed for January 2017 was 5.6 miles per hour (mph), which was 0.7 mph below normal (6.3 mph). The windiest January on record (1972) averaged 10.3 mph, while the January with the lightest winds (1985) averaged 2.9 mph. The peak gust for January 2017 was from the NNE at 31 mph on January 2nd. The record wind gust for January was 80 mph in 1972.

The monthly climatological data summaries, as well as other information, are available on the Internet.

Address: http://www.hanford.gov/page.cfm/hms

Or contact:

HMS staff at 373-2716 or email: hms@rl.gov

Note: The data in this summary pertains specifically to the Hanford Meteorology Station (HMS), which is located approximately 25 miles northwest of Richland, WA. No attempt should be made to infer meteorological conditions at other locations from these data.